2008 specific measures to support the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises under sector (MSME) including Pharmaceuticals MSME sector.

(c) In view of reply to part (a) and (b) above, does not arise.

New fertilizer policy

1282. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new fertilizer policy has come into force sometime in June, 2008;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the distinction thereof from the old policy;

(c) whether substantial additional subsidy liability has accrued consequent to the new policy, over and above estimated in the annual budget for 2008-09;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the rationale behind creating additional liability in the context of increased benefit it would accrue, if any, to marginal, small and medium farmers across the country; and

(f) the details of those who would be recipients of the largest share of the subsidy when disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir. A policy for nutrient based pricing of fertilizers was announced in June, 2008.

(b) The Nutrient based pricing of fertilizers lays down the MRPs of subsidized fertilizers based on nutrient contents therein. The price of nutrients across all subsidized fertilizer products is same under the new policy as compared to old policy under which the price of nutrients in complex fertilizers was more than that in the straight fertilizers like Urea, DAP and MOP. Under the new policy the nutrient price in complexes has also been reduced to that prevailing in the straight fertilizers leading to reduction in the selling prices of the complex fertilizers.

(c) to (f) Yes, the new policy has led to additional subsidy liability due to reduction in the price of the complex fertilizers. The additional liability is expected to be around Rs. 1000 crore in 2008-09. However, the same will depend upon actual sale of complex fertilizers in the country.

The rationale behind the policy has been to encourage usage of complex fertilizers as compared to straight fertilizers so as to promote balanced fertilization. The benefit of the additional subsidy will accrue to the farmers who will be applying complex fertilizers in their fields.

Use of dangerous chemicals for making pesticides

†1283. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
MS SUSHILE TIRIYA:
Will the Minister of CHEMICAILS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi